

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A bearing unit comprising a plurality of bearing assembly assemblies, each bearing assembly having at least first and second two bearing elements spaced by a first body, the first body having means for flexing, adjacent first bodies being spaced by a respective first spacer element.

2. (Currently Amended) A bearing assembly unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in use, when a load is applied to the bearing assembly assemblies, the first ~~body is~~ bodies are caused to flex.

3. (Currently Amended) A bearing assembly unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flexing means comprises at least one groove or notch formed on the respective first body.

4. (Currently Amended) A bearing assembly unit as claimed in claim 3, wherein the each first body is substantially annular in shape, the at least one groove being formed on an outer surface of the respective first body.

5. (Currently Amended) A bearing assembly unit as claimed in claim ~~4~~ 3 wherein the each groove is substantially U-shaped.

6. (Currently Amended) A bearing assembly unit as claimed in claim ~~5~~ 1 wherein the each first body is rigidly mounted to a body to which load is applied, in use.

7. (Currently Amended) A bearing assembly unit as claimed in claim ~~5~~ 1 wherein a first annular surface of the each first body is provided with a first annular raceway.

8. (Currently Amended) A bearing ~~assembly~~ unit as claimed in claim 7, wherein a second annular surface of ~~the~~ each first body is provided with a second annular raceway.

9. (Currently Amended) A bearing ~~assembly~~ unit as claimed in claim 8, wherein the first and second bearing elements each comprise a plurality of balls, the first and second bearing elements being received for movement within the first and second annular raceways of the respective first ~~body~~ bodies.

10. (Currently Amended) A bearing ~~assembly~~ unit as claimed in claim 6 ~~1~~, wherein the means for flexing flexes about a longitudinal axis of the respective first body.

11. (Currently Amended) A bearing ~~assembly~~ unit as claimed in claim ~~10~~ 4, wherein each ~~the~~ groove is provided substantially circumferentially around the respective first body.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A bearing unit as claimed in claim ~~13~~ 1 wherein adjacent bearing assemblies are spaced by a second body.

15. (Original) A bearing unit as claimed in claim 14, wherein the second body is substantially annular in shape.

16. (Currently Amended) A bearing unit as claimed in claim ~~15~~ 14, wherein the second body is rigidly mounted to a further body to which load is not directly applied in use.

17. (Previously Amended) A bearing unit as claimed in claim 14, wherein a first annular surface of the second body is provided with a first annular raceway.

18. (Original) A bearing unit as claimed in claim 17, wherein a second annular surface of the second body is provided with a second annular raceway.

19. (Original) A bearing unit as claimed in claim 18, wherein respective first and second bearing elements are received for movement within the first and second annular raceways of the second body.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A bearing unit as claimed in claim ~~19~~ 14, wherein adjacent second bodies are spaced by a respective second spacer element.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus including a bearing unit according to claim ~~19~~ 1.

25. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 24, for use in a borehole of an oil well or gas well.

26. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 25, further comprising a down-hole motor.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~A tool or~~ An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~25~~ 24, wherein the first body is rigidly mounted to a shaft to which load is applied, in use.

28. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 27, wherein the shaft is contained substantially concentrically within the bearing unit.

29. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~25~~ 24, wherein ~~the adjacent bearing assemblies are spaced by a second respective body, each respective second body is being~~ rigidly mounted to a housing.

30. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 29, wherein the housing substantially concentrically surrounds the bearing unit.

31. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~25~~ 24, wherein adjacent first bodies are longitudinally spaced by a said respective first spacer element.

32. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 31, wherein ~~the~~ each respective first spacer element is mounted on the shaft.

33. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein adjacent bearing assemblies are spaced by a respective second body, each respective second body being ~~bodies are~~ longitudinally spaced by a second respective spacer element.

34. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 33, wherein ~~the~~ each respective second spacer element is mounted on the housing.

35. (New) A bearing unit comprising a plurality of bearing assemblies, each bearing assembly having at least two bearing elements spaced by a first body, the first body

being at least partly flexible, adjacent first bodies being spaced by a respective first spacer element.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend Figure 3 as indicated in the attached copy of the drawing where the amendment has been marked in red ink.